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counties to coordinate our approach and sustaining fostering additional statewide capacity for delivering community-based services for juveniles. And we boosted substance abuse and mental health treatment capacity for juveniles at the Hastings Regional Center. Together we hammered out a historic initiative for distributing dollars from the tobacco settlement to health care needs that some would describe as being significantly and seriously underfunded. Those areas include behavioral health services, mental health and substance abuse treatment, juvenile services, minority health, developmental disabilities, emergency protective care, respite care and biomedical research. The legislation also provides funding for competitive health care grants and public health grants awarded by the Nebraska Healthcare Council. In time, this might be regarded as the greatest achievement of the 2001 legislative session. Other areas in health care where we did great things include a stepped up General Fund commitment for mental health services and approval of coverage for breast and cervical cancer treatment for low-income women. Our actions on health issues are sure to make a difference in the lives of Nebraskans. When we talk about our future, children and education, of course, are a focal point. After all, children represent our hopes and dreams for the future and education represents a key milestone on the path to a successful tomorrow. Together we raise the state's commitment to early childhood education to new heights and we boosted our investment in higher education with the goal of focused excellence for our university, state colleges and community colleges. And for K through 12 education we added \$200 million in new state aid to schools over the next two years, which will raise total state aid to schools to \$707 million by fiscal year 2003. We improved teacher certification, approved a loan forgiveness program for new teachers and enhanced retirement benefits for all teachers. And you addressed two major issues in a deliberate and a successful--the biennial budget and redistricting. Ladies and gentlemen, this Legislature has done good work; and I stand here today to congratulate you for your efforts. But at the end of every session there is, of course, work left to be undone. The history of our state has never been written with one legislative session, and this session is no different. There are challenges ahead and issues yet to be faced. And I look forward to working